



RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO STRENGTHEN STATE DRUNK DRIVING STATUTES.

WHEREAS, driving while intoxicated continues to be a serious problem in Hawaii as evidenced by the six thousand arrests made on average each year for driving under the influence (DUI); and

WHEREAS, in 2010, Hawaii had the tenth highest percentage of alcohol-related traffic fatalities in the nation as measured and ranked by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA); and

WHEREAS, while the minimum illegal blood alcohol content (BAC) specified in Hawaii Revised Statutes is .08 grams, as little as .02 grams BAC has been medically determined to impair a driver's fitness resulting in a reduced ability to track moving targets and declined overall coordination; and

WHEREAS, the latest study conducted by the NHTSA concluded that the minimum illegal BAC in the United States of .08 is higher than levels established by most comparable economic and demographic foreign countries; and

WHEREAS, while enforcement of existing laws governing alcohol-impaired driving have had an impact on alcohol-related traffic fatalities, this action alone may not be sufficient to bring about substantial improvements; and

WHEREAS, German DUI law is recognized internationally as exacting stiff penalties through the enactment of a tiered BAC system where the minimum illegal BAC tier is .03 grams, followed by .05 grams and finally .11 grams; and

WHEREAS, Germany's tiered illegal BAC levels are used, in combination with the driver's apparent fitness to drive and whether the driver caused an accident while driving intoxicated, to trigger corresponding penalty tiers that include the addition of points to a driver's record, fines, imprisonment and possible withdrawal of the driving license; and

WHEREAS, lowering the minimum BAC threshold accompanied by a cumulative points system where each traffic infraction carries an assigned points number on a driver's record would strengthen existing DUI state statutes, reduce the number of drunk drivers on Hawaii's roads and decrease Hawaii's overall number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the State Legislature is urged to strengthen existing State statutes governing drunk driving by lowering the minimum illegal BAC level to .03 grams and creating tiered illegal BAC levels with a commensurately tiered penalty structure as enacted by Germany; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Hawaii Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tom Berg

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

April 10, 2012
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
C E R T I F I C A T E

RESOLUTION 12-94, CD1

Introduced: 04/10/12 By: TOM BERG

Committee: SAFETY, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND
GOVERNMENT
AFFAIRS

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO STRENGTHEN STATE DRUNK DRIVING
STATUTES.

Links: [RES12-94](#)
[RES12-94, CD1](#)
[CR-187](#)

Voting Legend: Y= Aye, Y* = Aye w/Reservations, N = No, A = Absent, ABN = Abstain

SAFETY,
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AND GOVERNMENT
AFFAIRS

05/22/12

CR-187 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS
AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.

COUNCIL

06/06/12

CR-187 AND RESOLUTION 12-94, CD1 WERE ADOPTED.

ANDERSON Y

BERG Y

CACHOLA Y

CHANG Y

GABBARD Y

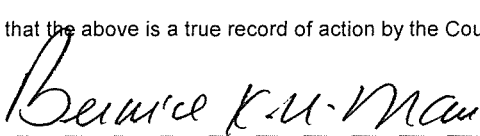
GARCIA Y

HARIMOTO Y

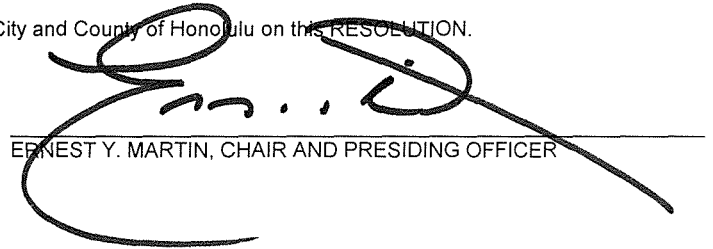
KOBAYASHI Y

MARTIN Y

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



BERNICE K. N. MAU, CITY CLERK



ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER